

Camp Jones  
Nov 30th/62

Dear Brother & Sister

I have written 2 letters to day and am some tiard of writing but will write a few lines to you for I suppose you are ancious to here from me as I am for you to day it is sunday and we dont have eny work to do and that is the case a most every day I tell you what it is I shall get so lasy by the time I get home that I dont believe I shall do much work for a while but I have Not got home yet mind that this war is not got along with so esy I am afrade I dont see as it is any nearer closed then it was when it commenced do you what do you think about it here I have been a soldier 3 months to day do you see eny great moove tworge ending the war dont it stand about as it did 3 months a go I tell you what I think there is to much speculation in the thing I wish every offaser had thare little 13 dollars a month and had to cary a Napsack and eat with us and sleep with us then they would not want to keep the thing eny longer then posable it is getting so dark I cannot see the line I will stop and eat my supper then finish I have got through eating and am seated on my nap sack feeling better I suppose you wood like to no what I had to eat for our supper we had coffey good bread fresh beef shugar ant that good enough I say it is we dont have as good as that every day when you come down to fresh meet with out salt or eny thing to eat with it then then you can talk but I dont meen to find falt I had not a right to I have gande 10 pound in flesh and am tuff as a bare can eat a horse and chace a rider and come out all rite in the morning Chet strickland is fat as a bare Gorge Newcomb dont look but a little older then Father he came off from picket to day did you get the juelry I sent you last week gorge how do you get along have you got your falls work don Willy do you go to school or hant school commenced yet who teaches your school this winter Willy write me a letter cant you I want you to lurn to rite you want to commence it will be a good time now by and by you will wonto write to the Girls when you are a soldier the pepper you send is what we want the most we cant get eny that is good for eny thing here we have not got the box yet but expect it every day you wanted I should write planer not smoth the thing over is this letter plane enough if it ante wate till I come then I will explane all excuse this poor letter From your Brother H. Howlett

Gorge is getting better Write often as you can write all the news

USA Hospital  
Chestnut Hill July 8th/63

Dear Sister

I recieved your letter this morning and was glad to here from you thare has not been eny change taken place here in the Hospital since Father left here except thare was a lot of woonded brought in from the frunt last night nun that I new. Thare is no furlows granted nor nun discharged take a man with both arms off the Boys say they are going to put hooks on thare arms and make them cary water but I am happy to say thare is bully good news this morning brings the news Vicksu is taken Mead driving the Rebs like all get out Dicks going to take Richmond O Shit thare is no use of talking the war is a bout over and I shall have to come home and go to work wont that be to bad after playing of gentleman so long I am a frade it will soil my delicat hands ant you I had a pass for 24 hours on the forth and and traveld Philadelphia all over it made me so stiff and lame I did not get over it in 3 days but I am all on the nip cat a gane now I have not hird who of my comrads has fell in the big fight that has been ragen but I expect thare is some gon under for the hull Army has been engaged perhaps you will here as soo as I for we dont get eny new York papers you spoke of sending pepper or some thing in your letters I have a plenty of every thing to make me coumfartable plenty of money in my britches and besides all that you see the war is a bout over and you would hardly have time to get eny thing to me before I get home what do you say to that you say the war is over this way It has been very rany and wet since I have been here I have a notion to get out and help the farmers do thare Haying but no gentleman cant work So thare is no use a talking George if I had time to come home I would help you do your haying right up to the handle but I am so drove I cant spend time just now Write often and oblige your Brother

Hod Howlett



Washington Dec 28th/63

Dear Sister

your good and kind letter came to hand day before yesterday I was very glad to hear you ware well and in good living sircumstances I am well and tuff as a bare I am Not standing guard as much as I was I am asstiant cook in the mane Cook Room Now you nede not say Eat to me I have better living then you can afford with out joking No hotell sets a better table then we do plenty of rost beef potato cabbage butter well thare is No use of talking as long as I have plenty and that is good my work is is Not very hard I have a bout half of the day to my self and all the Night after 6 oclock thare is 22 of us in thare so you see thare is not much chance for getting lonsum I suppose you would like to No what we cooked for dinner one Barrel of beef two barrel potatoes 4 barrel of cabbage so you see it dont take much to run things it takes 22 pounds of coffee for one drowing well let this cook Room go for the present I got a letter from Adaline the same day yours came She said A had the Dipthe I am a fraid they all will be sick with it it worres me a good deal it is a bad diseas but all I can do is hope for the best I have made a practiss of letting nothing bother me since I came in the army but when my folks are sick at home and I far from them how can I be contented I hope they may be spard for I have built a good meny castels in the are what a good time I should have after this war was closed living with my little family in peace once more Sum might call this foolish writing but lett a man go a way from a good home as I have and stay as long as I have and If they dont wont to come back to it they must be [m]ad men \_\_\_\_\_ the democrats are very much mistakend when they talk a bout sending all the Republicans home to vote hear is one they did not send home and a stiff one to if Old Abe was running for president I would vote for him if I had to go five thousen milds to do it if it was in my power to do so I wont the democrats to under stand they are plade out and thare is Not meny sound men will open thare head a bout democrats you can find some in the army that clame to be a dem[ocra]t but talk with them they are on the same platform with the Re[bellio]n thare is some copperheads I suppose back thare in the North but thare is no danger of them they dare Not get a way from home and I suppose some of them have dirtyed thare pants before Now for fear the draft might citch them write often

Horace Howlett

Washington  
May 21st/64

Dear Sister

Your welcome letter came to hand some time ago but I have been so shifless and had so much to do I have not answerd it my health is good I am sorry to hear your health is so poor we have all the cooking we can tend to I am boss cook thare is five of us does the cooking we have fed the hull of the wounded that has come to Washington we have got a eating house on six st whorfe and the one hear keeps us a Boffin the war is going on I can hardly tell how it runs but I think it is a bout a draw game so far Gen Hooker is wounded so todays paper tells us the Johnys fight like bricks the prisoners say they will whip us they say we cant fetch men enough to whip them but all we have is thare word for that Gen Grants army is as larg to day as it was when he crossed the Rappedan and he is a fighting Old Bugger if the rebs get much the start of him they have got to get up in the morning to be shure we have lost piles of men but we have got to lose the men as lose what we ar fighting for for my part I want the thing to go on to the end if we cant whip them let them have what they ask for I think this summer will tell whether we can or cannot so far as this spring I think the army of the Potomac is a bout a draw game with them I am in hopes the next mooves will proove to be to much for them and up set thare ducks Ft Pillo it seems they ware to meny for us and only look how they surond our men Burnsidies Niggers survive them the same way they take no Prisoners they make a clean sweep whare ever they go let them talk a bout Niggers not fighting they fight good and I had ruther they would fight then fight my self if the men in the north dont like to have them fight I think they had ought to come and lend a hand and get us poor Buggers out

Write often and oblige

Your Brother  
Horace Howlett

Washington DC  
Sept 29th/64

Dear Sister

I recd your welcome letter a short time ago my health is good the 44[th New York Volunteers] boys left here yesterday Noon for Albany to be mustered out they will be home before this reaches you. the Album if you will wait till I come home I will try and bring you one. there is not much news to write there is good News from the shanenday valley Shurmon is doing a good job I think you will soon hear from Grant when you do there will be stirring times I think I have an Idea he is going to make the rebels get up and dust before another two months rolls round two of our kitchen boys got picked up today by the Paroll guard and are in the central guard house for going outside of camp with a Blow on we have to wear the Invalid jacket with a belt around us and the US on it every time we go out they come down to a fine thing with us fellows well it makes but little difference to me I have been with them so long I am getting use to them a little less than a year they have got to domaneer over me and then I am free again and perhaps I will now enough to keep my freedom I do not mean to find fault with the military law for there must have regulation in the army or they could do nothing.

you must excuse this short and poor letter for some of the cookroom hands are gone and I have double work to do today write often From your Brother

Hod Howlett



Washington DC  
Oct 13th/64

Dear Sister

I recd your welcome letter 6 or 7 days ago but have neglected answering it well I will make no excuse my health is good Never was better I have plenty to eat and plenty to wear a good dry warm place to sleep and Not enough work to do to harm any one all soldiers dont have it as light as I do so far we have not had any snow yet but have had cold rane and it froze one Night some well I have sent my vote home for Old Abe and the union of corce who elce could a union man vote for that is a man. Chapman was hear from versales I sent it by him to give to Allen to be handed in at the box on election day so you see if I am not thare my vote will be and a little less then a year if my life is spaird old Hose will be thare him self then things must tremble thare it not much News from the frunt at present but we are all looking for the fall of richmond before meny weeks rolls a round I think with our men in richmond and Old Abe in the white house this rebellion will be short I suppose the 44 Boys have reach home before this I saw them hear in washington when they went through

Well I must close and get supper Write often from your Brother

Horace Howlett

Washington DC  
March 4th/65

Dear Sister

I hope you will excuse me for not writing sooner and I think you will when you hear my excuse we have not been paid till a short time ago and I had got short of money and writing material and I think is excuse enough but now I am all right again I have just been out and bought a lot of stamps and paper and envelopes

Well George I would like to have you see what I have seen today I have seen the inauguration of the president of the United States something I never expected to see in the first place I never saw so many people together before take them men women and children Black red and all Well I went out on Pennsylvania Avenue and got my back up against a lamp post and made up my mind if there was anything to be seen I was going to see it well I stood there for about two hours then I saw the marshals coming about fifty I should judge all on horse back with a white scarf over one shoulder those are men such as congress men and big men of all business next came old Abe in his carriage drawn by two horses next came the black horse cavalry next was the police force with a band of music then came a regiment of Veteran Reserve with a Brass Band next was a Battery of six guns Brass they were polished up to the scratch next was the fire men with their fire engine and hooks and ladder company and so forth then came another Regiment of V.R.C. and so forth and so on and the last end of all were a Nigger Brass Band I should judge there were 25 or thirty Brass Bands in all mixed through the procession take it all around it made quite a show they went from the President's house to the capital there old Abe and I made his inaugural address but I mind you did not have much to do with it then he got in to an open wagon drawn by four white horses and went to his house

Well I have given you a little sketch of what they went through with I have not told all for I suppose you will see it all in the paper and put in in better shape then I can do it so I will close write often and Oblige your Brother

Horace Howlett

Washington DC  
April 20th/65

Dear Sister

I Recd your welcome letter a few moments ago yeas we have lost the Father of our country a great and good man has gon I saw him to day for the last time his remains hav lane in the capital since yesterday tomorrow they start for N.Y. I saw the funerall prosession as they past yesterday on Pa. Avanie I had just ben out and got you a paper with the hull procedings this city has been a gloomy place since the awfull thing occurd every house has hung out crape and the most of men ware crape on thare arm Seward and son aur not dead. this paper has got a very good picture of him looks a good deal like him and as soon as I can get a potograph of him I will send you one and I shall get one for my self two.

I have been a way from this hospital two weeks the reson I have not writen sooner I hav been at six St. whorfe feeding the woonded as they come of the Boats but they thought they could not get a long with the cooking with out me so I had to come back

George I am hapy to say to you this war is a bout plaid out the southern confedrica is fast coming old foots prair meating I think I shal be able to come home in time of peace.

my health is good I hav plenty to eat and plenty to do

I have no more time to write this time

Write often and Oblige your Brother

Horace Howlett



Write Captain Sweet  
Calise your Brother

James Howlett  
3rd Regt Co H. & C.  
Armory Square Hospital  
Washington

DC

Washington Dec 19th 1862

Dear Sister

Your ever welcome  
letter came in hand a day or  
two ago the one you wrote for  
Father & hardly knew which to  
write to send as you complain  
of not getting any letters from  
me I thought I would write  
to you & have answered every letter  
I have had from you the general  
disorder part of the last of his  
month and perhaps some one  
thinks what was money in the  
last of Sept they got fooled for  
general's and supposed to send home  
much money my health is good as  
usual and for your sending stamps  
I don't want you should do any  
such thing I want you should  
put all your stamps on letters  
and send them a long I will

These two were incomplete - I hope to get new copies of the originals and will send transcripts when I do.

have commenced leaving out - I do not hear the birds singing nor the calves bleating as I used to at home in the Spring of the year and a good many other things I can't see like home but I am well off and well satisfied to what money a poor soldier is when this month is gone 20 months of my time has gone so far so good. Well Johnson has been to see me a little over a week ago we had a good visit - he staid all night we went to Grover's Theater in the evening you wished me to send you a albion I will do so I shall send a box home by and by and I will send you one I shall take no more to

it - it will be a present of candle all kind. hear April 9<sup>th</sup>. Well Sis I did not finish my letter last evening I took a notion to go out in the city a while I went to the Canterbury. Now I suppose you know what that is and all a bout it only just you want well it is a place of amusement I saw some of the nicest dancing you ever saw it is a show some like a theater only a little more so there was so much fun going on with there plays I lasted so I had to go out and make water before the show was half out there is one place more I am going that is the Washing ton Box 4.